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URBAN DISTRICT OF FAILSWORTH

Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year 1954



TERENCE P. O'GRADY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

**Including the Report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent
WILFRED L. MONKS, M.S.I.A.**

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FAILSWORTH :



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URBAN DISTRICT OF FAILSWORTH.

The

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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TERENCE P. O'GRADY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF FAILSWORTH

Health Committee, 1954-55 :

Councillor G. E. Edge (Chairman).

- „ M. N. Whiteley (Vice-Chairman).
- „ S. Varney.
- „ G. A. Hughes, J.P.
- „ H. Crossley.
- „ W. Stanley.
- „ Mrs. B. McKenzie.
- „ R. Ord.
- „ W. Robertson.
- „ G. Howarth, J.P.
- „ J. Stanhope, J.P.
- „ D. Makinson.
- „ G. F. Wilson.
- „ J. Fogarty, C.C.
- „ J. H. Bell.

Medical Officer of Health :

ELLIS TAYLOR, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
(Resigned May, 1954)

TERENCE P. O'GRADY, M.B., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.
(Appointed 21st July, 1954)

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Cleansing Superintendent :

WILFRED L. MONKS, M.S.I.A.,
Cert. of Meat and Other Foods, R.S.I.
Cert. of Smoke Inspector, R.S.I.

Additional Sanitary Inspector :

HUGH P. LAWRENCE, Cert. R.S.I.

Clerk in Public Health Department :

Mrs. D. ROWBOTTOM.

Town Hall,

Fairsworth,

June, 1955.

To the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee.

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report for 1954 on the health of the district.

Following the resignation of Dr. E. Taylor, I took up appointment as your Medical Officer of Health on 21st July, 1954.

The local birth rate is below the average of the previous ten years and below the National Figure of 15.2 for 1954. Six infant deaths occurred of which three were in the first twenty-four hours of life and were attributable to congenital and allied causes which as yet are least amenable to medical science and skill.

Sixty-four per cent of the Total Deaths occurring in the district were in respect of persons aged sixty-five years and over and the most common causes of deaths were Heart Disease and Cancer.

Infectious Diseases showed a marked decrease on the figures for the previous year. In this connection it is particularly gratifying to record the continued absence of Diphtheria. To ensure that this happy state of affairs continues it is essential to press on with the Immunisation Campaign and no less essential is the necessity for vaccination against Smallpox.

I would like to express my appreciation of the continued support of members of the Committee and of the ready co-operation of my colleagues in the Town Hall. I am especially indebted to the Senior Sanitary Inspector and the staff of the Department for their invaluable help throughout the year.

T. P. O'GRADY,

Medical Officer of Health.

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE DISTRICT.

PHYSICAL FEATURES AND GENERAL CHARACTER OF THE DISTRICT.

Failsworth is a compact Urban District of 1,663 acres, of which approximately nine acres are covered with water.

There is a gradual rise from 286 feet above sea level at the Manchester extremity to 354 feet above sea level at the Oldham extremity.

The district is divided into five wards, namely, North, South, East, West and Lower.

With the dissolution of the Limehurst Rural District on the 31st March, 1954, a portion was included in the District, consisting of practically the whole of the Parish of Woodhouses and small parts of the Parishes of Bardsley and Littlemoss.

The sub-soil is chiefly clay, with sand and gravel in places overlying the coal measures.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (acres)	1663
Population (Census 1951)	18033
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate for mid-year 1954)	18370
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1954)	
according to Rate Books	6326
Rateable Value	£116,713
Sum represented by a 1d. Rate (estimated) ...	£463

VITAL STATISTICS.

Live Births—

	Total. Males. Females				
Legitimate	249	123	126		
Illegitimate	7	4	3	Birth Rate per 1000 estimated population	13.9
Total	256	127	129		
Still Births	8	3	5	Rate per 1000 Total Births	30

Deaths	208	113	95	Crude Death Rate per 1000 estimated population.....	11.3
--------------	-----	-----	----	---	------

Deaths from Puerperal Causes:—

Puerperal sepsis	—
Other puerperal causes.....	—

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age:—

All Infants, 6. Legitimate, 6; Illegitimate, —.

Mortality rate per 1,000 Live Births, 23.

Neo-natal Mortality.

Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age	3
Mortality rate per 1000 live births	12

Principal Causes of Death.

Deaths from Heart Disease (all ages)	80
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	43

	Per 1000 of Estimated Population				Maternal Mortality Rate		Rate of Deaths under 1 Year per 1000 Live Births
	Live Birth-rate	Crude Death-rate	Death-rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	Death-rate from Cancer	Per 1000 Live Births	Per 1000 Total (Live and Still) Births	
Mean of 5 Years							
1949-1953 ...	15.4	11.5	0.29	1.63	Nil	Nil	27
1953 ...	15.0	9.7	0.17	1.96	Nil	Nil	22
1954 ...	13.9	11.3	0.05	2.34	Nil	Nil	23

Increase or decrease on 5 years average

1949-1953	—1.5	—0.2	—0.24	+0.71	Nil	Nil	—4
Previous year	—1.1	+1.6	—0.12	+0.38	Nil	Nil	+1

1954 adjusted Death rate (comparability factor 1.13) = 12.8 per 1000.

1954 adjusted Birth rate (comparability factor 0.98) = 13.7 per 1000.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

The following services are administered by the Lancashire County Council through the No. 11 Health Division whose office is at "Tylon," Middleton Road, Chadderton.

MATERNITY SERVICE

Two domiciliary midwives serve the district. The ante-natal clinic is held at Firs Hall, Oldham Road, on Tuesday afternoons between the hours of 2 p.m. and 4 p.m.

HEALTH VISITORS AND SCHOOL NURSES

Two full-time Health Visitors/School Nurses are employed in the area.

CLINICS.

Regular sessions of the following clinics are held at Firs Hall, Oldham Road, Failsworth, as follows:—

Ante and Post Natal: Every Tuesday afternoon at 2 p.m.

Maternity and Child Welfare: Every Wednesday and Thursday afternoon at 2 p.m.

Diphtheria Immunisation: By appointment.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE.

The Divisional Medical Officer and the Assistant Divisional Medical Officer are also School Medical Officers. Clinics are held at Firs Hall, as follows:—

Minor Ailments: Every Thursday morning at 10 a.m.

Ophthalmic, Orthodontic, Child Guidance and Speech Therapy Clinics attended by appointment only.

The School Dental Clinic was re-opened in 1952 and a School Dental Officer is in attendance each morning. Treatment is by appointment only.

CARE OF CHILDREN UNDER THE CHILDREN ACT, 1948.

The work in connection with Infant Life Protection and Adoption of Children is carried out by the Lancashire County Council.

The Area Childrens' Officer for this District has an office at Enville House, Scotland Street, Ashton-under-Lyne.

DAY NURSERIES.

There are two day nurseries, one of 37 place accommodation at Oldham Road, and one of 50 place accommodation at Totton Road, which are the responsibility of the County Council. There are also a further two nurseries attached to cotton mills in the district.

AMBULANCE.

The ambulance service is provided by the Lancashire County Council, and the ambulance station is situated at Middleton.

HOME HELP SERVICE.

Home helps are available for emergency cases, priority being given to maternity cases, general sickness cases, and the elderly and infirm. The services of a home help can be obtained on application to the Divisional Medical Officer.

HOME NURSING SERVICE.

Provided by the Lancashire County Council through the Divisional Medical Officer.

CONVALESCENCE.

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire County Council through the Divisional Medical Officer.

CONVALESCENT TREATMENT.

Under arrangement made by the Regional Hospital Board through the Local Hospital Management Committee.

UNMARRIED MOTHERS AND ILLEGITIMATE CHILDREN.

Provision for their care is made by Lancashire County Council in conjunction with Voluntary Moral Welfare Organisations.

WELFARE SERVICE.

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire County Council resident accommodation is provided at the Annexe, Oldham and District General Hospital and at various Hostels for aged people.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The Chest Clinic is situated in the Oldham and District General Hospital where all suspected cases of Tuberculosis are referred. X-Ray facilities are available at the Clinic.

HOSPITAL SERVICE.

Hospitals available to residents of Failsworth are:—

General and Maternity Cases: Oldham and District General Hospital and Manchester Hospitals.

Infectious Diseases: Westhulme and Monsall Hospitals.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	1944	1952	1953	1954
Diphtheria	7	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	28	9	4
Erysipelas	6	1	4	3
Food Poisoning	—	—	—	—
Measles	210	237	260	177
Meningococcal Infection	3	—	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	27	30	36	16
Polio-myelitis	2	1	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	2	—	2	1
Scarlet Fever	41	51	71	35
Smallpox	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis	25	17	25	13
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	63	69	142	58
	<hr/> 386 <hr/>	<hr/> 434 <hr/>	<hr/> 549 <hr/>	<hr/> 308 <hr/>

DIPHTHERIA.

Although we have been fortunate enough to have had no notifications or deaths from Diphtheria the public cannot afford to become complacent. Immunisation of all children still remains the sheet anchor of prevention. Whenever a case of Diphtheria does occur, especially in the unimmunised child, it can still be a killing disease.

SCARLET FEVER.

There was a decrease in the incidence of scarlet fever, 35 notifications having been received as against 71 in the previous year. It was of a mild type which enabled 31 cases to be nursed at home.

PNEUMONIA.

Sixteen cases were notified against 36 in the previous year. There were nine deaths from Pneumonia.

PUERPERAL PYREXIA.

One case occurred during the year.

ERYSIPELAS.

As in previous years the number of cases notified was small : only three cases occurred and made good recovery.

MENINGOCOCCAL INFECTION.

One case occurred during the year.

MEASLES.

There was a decrease in the number of Measles cases notified : 177 against 260 in the previous year.

Only six cases were admitted to hospital although it is a much more serious disease than scarlet fever because of the complications such as running ears, visual defects and general ill health which may result.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

There was a decrease from 142 in 1953 to 58 in the current year. The great majority of the cases occurred in the 1 to 5 years of age group.

DYSENTERY

It will be noticed that there were 4 notifications of dysentery which were entirely of the sonne type. This type of dysentery is very prevalent in the community but because of its mild nature many of those affected do not call in medical aid and thus the Health Department never hears of the majority of cases.

FOOD POISONING.

No cases were notified during the year.

PATHOLOGICAL AND BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS.

The number of specimens examined by the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall, Manchester, and the results of such examination were as undernoted:—

	<i>Negative</i>	<i>Positive</i>
Diphtheria	4	—
Tuberculosis	—	—
Dysentery	15	—
Whooping Cough	1	—
Gastro-enteritis	—	—
Streptococci	1	—

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1918—Section 47.

No applications were made under the above Act during the year.

Cases of Infectious Disease notified (other than Tuberculosis) during the Year 1954.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.	NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED.												Deaths in Hospital of persons belonging to district	Total Deaths	
	Total Cases at all Ages	AT AGES—YEARS.								Total Cases removed to Hospital					
		Under 1	1 to 2	3 to 4	5 to 9	10 to 14	15 to 24	25 to 44	45 to 64		65 and over				
Scarlet Fever	35	—	2	8	21	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—
Measles	177	5	46	58	66	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—
Whooping Cough	58	2	18	20	16	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	1
Acute Primary and Acute Influenzal Pneumonia...	16	1	1	1	—	—	1	—	5	7	—	7	—	7	9
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	4	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	1	—	—
Meningococcal Infection	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	295	9	70	87	103	7	1	3	8	7	12	8	10	10	10

TUBERCULOSIS.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1954.

Age-Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years Under 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1-2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
3-4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5-9	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
10-14	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
15-24	1	2	1	1	—	—	1	—
25-44	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—
45-64	2	—	—	1	1	—	—	—
65 and over	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	4	3	3	3	1	—	1	—
	7		6		1		1	

No action has been necessary relating to tuberculosis employees in the milk trade, nor for the compulsory removal to hospital of persons suffering from the disease.

The duties of tuberculosis visitation are carried out by the staff of the County Council.

Disinfection of the rooms and bedding is carried out in all cases of pulmonary tuberculosis when the patient dies, removes from the district, or enters sanatorium.

The number of new cases showed a decrease of 12 from last year's figures.

At the end of the year there were 109 cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and 24 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis on the register.

REGISTRAR-GENERAL'S TABLE.

Causes of Death, 1951.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Males	Females
All Causes	113	95
Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	...
Tuberculosis, other.....	1	...
Syphilitic Disease .....	...	...
Diphtheria .....	...	...
Whooping Cough .....	...	1
Meningococcal Infections .....	...	..
Acute Poliomyelitis .....	...	.
Measles .....	...	..
Other infective and parasitic diseases .....	...	...
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	6	2
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	9	...
Malignant neoplasm, breast .....	...	5
Malignant neoplasm, uterus .....	...	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm ...	10	10
Leukæmia, aleukæmia .....	...	...
Diabetes .....	...	...
Vascular lesions of nervous system	11	12
Coronary disease, angina	26	15
Hypertension with heart disease	2	2
Other Heart Disease	13	22
Other Circulatory Disease.....	7	4
Influenza .....	...	1
Pneumonia	5	4
Bronchitis	7	1
Other disease of respiratory system	4	..
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	...
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea .....	...	..
Nephritis and Nephrosis .....	...	3
Hyperplasia of prostate	1	...
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .....	...	...
Congenital malformations .....	...	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	7
Motor Vehicle Accidents .....	...	2
All other accidents	1	...
Suicide	4	2
Homicide and operations of war.....	...	...

INFANT MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1954.
*Nett Deaths from stated Causes at various Ages under
 One Year of Age. Compiled from Local Returns*

CAUSES OF DEATH.		Under 24 Hours	1-6 Days	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 4 Weeks	4 Weeks and under 3 Months	3 Months and under 6 Months	6 Months and under 9 Months	9 Months and under 12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 Year
All causes	Certified	3	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	6
	Uncertified	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Prematurity		1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Pneumonia		—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Intracranial Haemorrhage ...		1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Convulsion		—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Subdural Haemorrhage		—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Hydrocephalus		1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Total		3	—	—	—	—	3	3	—	—	—	6

TOTAL DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS DURING 1954.

	Under 1 year	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over	Total
Deaths from all causes.....	6	1	1	—	—	2	3	61	134	208

**REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR
AND CLEANSING SUPERINTENDENT.**

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Failsworth,

June, 1955.

To the Chairman and Members
of the Health Committee.

I have pleasure in presenting for your consideration my Annual Report upon the Sanitary Circumstances of the District and the work done by the Sanitary Inspectors during 1954.

With the addition of part of the Limehurst Rural District to Failsworth, many problems in connection with refuse collection, pail closet emptying and disposal of waste water were encountered. Pollution of the small ditches and water courses occurs due to drainage of waste water, part of Lord's Brook is seriously polluted by drainage from a large piggery and it would be advisable to sewer this part of the district without delay and so obviate these nuisances and also permit conversion of most of the pail closets to fresh water closets.

In submitting this report, I wish to record my thanks and appreciation to the Members and Officials of the Council and in particular to the Staff of the Health Department for the invaluable co-operation and assistance which I have received during the year.

Mr. H. P. Lawrence, Additional Sanitary Inspector, resigned in January, 1955, and the report covers the last complete year of his service.

I will therefore take this opportunity of expressing my appreciation for the excellent work he has rendered to the Department.

WILFRED L. MONKS,

*Senior Sanitary Inspector
and Cleansing Superintendent.*

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.

WATER SUPPLY.

All dwellinghouses in the District are supplied direct from water mains. The District is supplied by Oldham Corporation; Ashton-under-Lyne, Dukinfield, Stalybridge and District Water Board; and Manchester Corporation.

Forty-eight samples of treated water going into supply were submitted for bacteriological examination. All were reported as satisfactory.

Complaints are still being received regarding low water pressure in houses due to silt from the mains blocking the service pipes.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

The river Medlock adjoins the Sewage Works, and receives the sewage effluent. It flows along the south-east border of the district. On the opposite boundary of the district is the Moston Brook, which flows into the river Irk.

A smaller brook, named Lord's Brook, flows into the Medlock, and another small stream occurs near the Cemetery.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

All drains are examined before being covered in, and smoke or water tests applied where applicable.

The sewers in the district are partly brick and partly pipe. Most of the storm water finds its way into the sewers. They are periodically flushed and are ventilated by open manholes and gratings. House drains are well trapped and soil pipes are properly ventilated. The sewage is treated at the Council's Sewage Works.

TREATMENT OF SEWAGE AT DISPOSAL WORKS.—The dry-weather flow of sewage exceeds 1,250,000 gallons per day. The sewage enters the works through a cast-iron pipe, 3 feet in diameter. The crude sewage is treated with lime and ferrous sulphate and passes through detritus tanks, on through precipitation and settling tanks, and through 12 sprinkler filters, the effluent being subjected to humus tanks and strainer filters before being discharged into the river Medlock.

The portion of Linchurst Rural District added to the District is unsewered. Most of the sink waste water finds its way into ditches and small water courses. Lord's Brook is seriously polluted by drainage from a large piggery. Negotiations are in hand for the provision of a sewer which will minimise this nuisance.

CLOSET ACCOMMODATION.

The following table shows the approximate number of the various sanitary conveniences in the district at the close of the year:—

CLOSETS.	House and Shops	Public B'd'gs & Rec. G'ds	Factories	TOTALS
Privy-midden closets	—	—	—	—
Pail-closets	250	14	3	267
Fresh water-closets	6511	192	642	7345
Waste water-closets	100	—	—	100
Trough closets.....	—	34	—	34
	6861	240	645	7746

With the addition of Woodhouses to the District the number of pail closets has increased from 38 to 267.

Four waste-water closets were converted to fresh-water closets during the year. The waste-water type of closet is most unsatisfactory and should be abolished at the earliest possible opportunity.

The Council's policy of making the maximum grant allowed by the Public Health Act, 1936, is now well known throughout the District and there is no doubt that the number of conversions will rapidly increase.

The following table shows the approximate number of the various refuse receptacles:—

REFUSE RECEPTACIES.	Houses and Shops	Public B'd'gs & Rec. G'ds	Factories	TOTALS
Privy-middens (covered) .	—	—	—	—
Dry ashpits (covered) ...	—	—	—	—
Metal Ashbins	6525	63	40	6628
	6525	63	40	6628

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

With the addition of a portion of Lincolnhurst Rural District the Public Cleansing Service was reorganised. Another refuse collection vehicle was purchased and six additional men employed.

Four seven cubic yard 14 horse power Karrier Bantam refuse collectors are employed full time on the collection of refuse. A special once weekly collection of paper salvage is made from certain shops and business premises, but generally trade refuse and salvage are collected during the normal course of the house refuse collection service.

The personnel of the Department is 24, comprising a foreman, four drivers, sixteen ashbin men, two tip attendants and one paper baler/rodent operator.

Refuse is collected from approximately 6,350 premises and a regular weekly collection has been maintained for a large part of the year, although difficulties have been encountered due to the abnormal sickness rate of the workmen.

The Council have operated a scheme for the maintenance of dustbins as a charge upon the general rate fund since 1st April, 1949; 616 dustbins were provided under the scheme during the past year.

All refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping on low lying land near Broadway, and adjoining the Manchester Boundary. This land is adjacent to the Council's Lower Park and tipping is at present taking place to extend the area used as football pitches.

The tip has a very short life and negotiations have been going on for some time with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for appropriation of the adjoining allotments. The negotiations were nearing completion at the end of the year.

With this addition the tip will still only have a very limited life and additional tipping sites must be found within the next few years.

We are entirely dependant on ashes solicited from various sources for covering material for the tip but no shortage has been noticed this year.

Large amounts of waste paper are still being placed in the bins considerably increasing the fire risk.

Two hundred and sixty seven pail closets are emptied weekly by one of the refuse collection vehicles to which is attached a trailer tank for the purpose. Cesspools are emptied by means of a mechanical pump as requested.

The tank is emptied, without causing any nuisance, into a special chute in Lord Lane which is connected to the Main Sewer.

Street cleansing is carried out by six street orderlies working on the beat system.

Disposal of waste paper has been easier and the price rose to £7 per ton. The salvage scheme was reorganised and an electrically operated bailing press was installed. Fifty-three tons of paper were sold realising a sum of £349.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS.

The following tabular statement has been prepared in accordance with Article 27 of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935, and contains information as to:—

- (a) The number and nature of inspections made during the year;
- (b) The number of notices served during the year, distinguishing statutory from informal notices;
- (c) The result of the service of such notices.

(Please refer to next page)

Tabular Statement of Sanitary Inspections for the Year ended 31st December, 1954.

INSPECTIONS.

Nature of	Number of	Result of Service of Notices				Outstanding
		Internal	Statutory.	By Owner or Occupier.	By Council in Default.	
Water Supply	100	20	—	20	—	—
Drainage	230	112	5	112	—	—
Stables and Piggeries	35	—	—	—	—	—
Offensive Trades	15	1	—	1	—	—
Tents, Vans and Sheds.....	55	1	—	1	—	—
Factories	135	7	—	7	—	—
Outworkers	64	—	—	—	—	—
Refuse Collection	450	—	—	—	—	—
Refuse Disposal	175	—	—	—	—	—
Smoke Observations	75	8	—	8	—	—
Rats and Mice	1907	—	—	—	—	—
Schools	26	—	—	—	—	—
Shops	725	1	—	1	—	—
Interviews	410	—	—	—	—	—
Dwelling Houses	817	207	15	158	5	44
Revisits to Property	1293	—	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding—Number of Houses Inspected	12	—	—	—	—	—
Verminous Premises—Number of Houses Inspected	83	3	—	3	—	—
Infectious Disease	35	—	—	—	—	—
Disinfection after Infectious Disease	22	—	—	—	—	—
Visits to Premises where Food is prepared, sold or stored (including Vehicles)	201	4	—	4	—	—
Visits to Ice Cream Premises	91	—	—	—	—	—
Dairies and Milkshops	120	—	—	—	—	—
Slaughterhouses	67	4	—	4	—	—
Totals.....	7143	368	20	319	5	44

DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING 1954.

DWELLING HOUSES—	No
Unclean Houses	1
Infested with Cockroaches	83
Kitchen ranges, fireplaces and flues	11
Washboilers	—
Defective Plaster	69
Defective ceiling plaster	31
Floors and stairs	33
Doors, windows and cords	40
Damp walls	40
Sinks	2
Waste pipes and channels	—
Roofs	53
Pointing and brickwork of walls	63
Yard paving and paths	10
Rainwater pipes and eaves gutters	114
Drains cleansed or repaired	31
Defective W.C. apparatus and buildings	36
Defective chimney stacks	14
Defective water supply and cisterns	20
Defective ashbins	616
Ventilation	—
Offensive accumulations	2
Miscellaneous	10
FACTORIES—	
Unsuitable or defective sanitary accommodation	3
Other nuisances	4
FOOD PREMISES—	
Cleansing and linewashing	4
Structural defects	4
Removal of refuse	—
Miscellaneous	3
Total	1297
Complaints received and investigated	174

FENTS, VANS, SHEDS, CAMPING SITES, ETC

The number of moveable dwellings in occupation at the end of the year was 14. These are situated on enclosed land and are provided with satisfactory water supply and sanitary accommodation. Regular inspections were made to ensure compliance with Bye-laws made by the Council in 1928.

No licences under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936, have been issued by the Local Authority.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

Seventy-five smoke observations were taken during the year. No legal action was taken, but it was found necessary on a number of occasions to inspect the boiler plants at factories in an endeavour to reduce the output of smoke.

A joint scheme for the investigation of atmospheric pollution has been formed by seventeen Local Authorities and lead peroxide gauges are installed throughout the area.

Balanced draught has been installed at two boiler houses with vast improvement in fuel consumption and the emission of black smoke.

DISINFESTATION.

Eighty-three houses infested with cockroaches were treated by the Council with insecticides containing D.D.T. The results obtained were very satisfactory. Re-inspections were made to check re-infestation and tenants were advised on precautions to be taken.

RODENT CONTROL.

One trained Rodent Operator is employed part time on this work. Regular surveys were made and all complaints given prompt attention. All sewers in the district received two treatments in accordance with the methods approved by the responsible Ministry, and routine inspections and treatments were made at other Council properties.

Regular meetings are held between representatives of contiguous Local Authorities, County Agricultural Executive Committee and Railway Executive as a Workable Area Committee, under the auspices of the Ministry's Divisional Rodent Officer. Joint action is planned between representatives when necessary.

The following table shows the number of inspections and treatments carried out during the period under review :—

<i>Type of Property</i>	<i>No. of proper lies Inspected</i>	<i>No. of inspections made</i>	<i>Number of treatments carried out</i>	
			<i>Rats</i>	<i>Mice</i>
Local Authority's property	29	96	13	2
Dwelling Houses	949	1564	60	105
Business Premises	122	226	16	7
Agricultural property	16	21	1	—
Total	1116	1907	90	114

SCHOOLS.

There are nine schools in the district:—

County Modern Secondary School for Boys (Partington Street).

County Modern Secondary School for Girls (Stansfield Road).

Mather Street County School (Junior Mixed and Infants).

Stansfield Road County School (Junior Mixed and Infants).

St. John's Church of England School (Junior Mixed and Infants)

Holy Trinity Church of England School

(Junior Mixed and Infants).

St. Mary's Roman Catholic School

(Junior Mixed and Infants).

Woodhouses Church of England School

(Junior Mixed and Infants)

Woodhouses British School Undenominational

(Junior Mixed and Infants).

The schools are supplied with town's water, seven are provided with closets on the water carriage system, in the case of St. John's Church of England School and St. Mary's Roman Catholic School, however, these are obsolete trough closets which should be abolished at the first opportunity.

The Woodhouses schools have pail closets which should be converted to fresh water closets when the sewer is provided. The playgrounds of these two schools are like swamps in wet weather and require properly paving.

At the end of the year the water supply at St. John's School was still giving serious trouble, and negotiations were taking place between the Council, the School Management Committee and the Education Authority.

HOUSING.

NUMBER OF NEW HOUSES ERECTED DURING THE YEAR :—

(a) Total, including numbers given separately under (b)—	
(i) By the Local Authority	84
(ii) By other Local Authorities	Nil
(iii) By other bodies or persons	27
(b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts :—	
(i) By the Local Authority	84
(ii) By other bodies or persons	Nil

1—INSPECTION OF DWELLINGHOUSES DURING THE YEAR :—

(i) (a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	817
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	1293
(ii) (a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (i) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932	11
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	44
(iii) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	324
(iv) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	173

2—REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES :—

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers	207
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3—ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR :—

A. Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs	6
(ii) Number of dwellinghouses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By Owners	7
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	5

B. Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	9
(ii) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:—	
(a) By Owners	6
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners.....	Nil

C. Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(i) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	Nil
(ii) Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	6
(iii) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which undertakings "not to occupy" were accepted by the local authority	Nil
(iv) Number of houses demolished by agreement with the owners	7

D. Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936

(i) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	Nil
(ii) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	Nil

E. Proceedings under Section 25 and 26 of the Housing Act, 1936.

(i) Number of Clearance Areas represented	Nil
(ii) Number of houses concerned in (i)	Nil
(iii) Number of areas cleared	1
(iv) Number of houses concerned in (iii)	7
(v) Number of residents displaced in (iii) and (iv)	20
(vi) Number of houses built by Local Authority to rehouse residents displaced under Clearance Orders	7

F. Mining Subsidence.

(i) Number of houses demolished due to mining subsidence	15
(ii) Number of houses closed due to mining subsidence	4

1—HOUSING ACT, 1936. OVERCROWDING.

The exact position re overcrowding is not known, and to obtain it a new Survey would have to be carried out.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) MILK SUPPLY.

There were nine dairy farms in the district at the end of the year.

Producers licences are now granted by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, but periodic inspections of the farms were made with regard to cleanliness and conditions were found to be satisfactory.

The Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) (No. 3) Order, 1953, came into force on 1st January, 1954, consequently the use of a Special Designation is compulsory with regard to all milk sold by retail in the District.

A very high percentage of the milk retailed in this district is pasteurised milk from the United Co-operative Dairies, Broadway, Failsworth.

The Lancashire County Council is responsible for the licensing of pasteurising plants, but as there is complete co-operation between the County Sanitary Officers and your Sanitary Inspectors we have ample opportunity for inspecting and supervising the premises.

Particulars of registrations made and licences granted under the Milk and Dairies Acts and Regulations are as follows:—

The Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949:—

No. of registered distributors operating from:—

(a) Own dairies in district	1
(b) Dairy farms in district	1
(c) Shops in the district other than dairies ...	60
(d) Premises outside the district	5

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949:—

No. of dealers licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the Local Authority during 1954 in respect of:—

(a) Tuberculin Tested Milk	5
----------------------------------	---

The Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949:—

No. of dealers licences (including supplementary licences) issued by the Local Authority during 1954 in respect of:—

(a) Pasteurised Milk	6
(b) Sterilised Milk	61

Food and Drugs Act, 1938, Section 14, and the
Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) Regulations, 1947:—

(i) ICE CREAM.

No. of premises registered to sell Ice Cream ..	43
No. of Inspections	80

(ii) SAUSAGES AND PRESERVED FOODS.

No. of premises registered for the preparation of sausages, etc.	16
No. of Inspections	45

The premises and storage accommodation were found
to be maintained in a satisfactory condition.

(c) MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

No. of food premises in the district at the end of 1954:—

Grocers	67
Greengrocers	27
Butchers	24
Fish Friers	20
Confectioners	21
Sweets	22
Cafe's, Clubs, Canteens, etc.	32
Orange drink, mixing and bottling...	1

Bye-Laws made under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938 for securing the observance of Sanitary and Cleanly Conditions and practices in connection with the handling, wrapping and delivery of food and sale of food in the open air, came into operation on the 17th July, 1950, and the provisions are generally well observed.

Four private slaughterhouses were licensed during the year but two only have been used. Most of the slaughtering for the district continued to be done at the abattoirs in Manchester and Oldham.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned within the District.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	30	13	10	96	42
Number inspected	30	13	10	96	42
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis:—</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	1	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	3	—	2	3
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	6.6	23	10	2	7
<i>Tuberculosis only:—</i>					
Whole carcases condemned	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	4	3	—	—	—
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	13.3	23	—	—	—

Butchers shops were regularly inspected. Premises and equipment were generally maintained at a high standard of cleanliness and the provisions of the Public Health (Meat) Regulations well observed.

All premises where food is prepared, stored or sold were periodically inspected. Four informal notices were served and complied with during the year.

It was not found necessary to institute legal proceedings in any case.

The following table gives the quantity of meat and other foods seized or surrendered during the year, upon being found unfit for human consumption:—

<i>Description of Food.</i>	<i>Weight Condemned.</i>			
	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Meat and Offal	—	3	1	26
Tinned Chicken	—	—	1	20
Tinned Meat	—	1	2	7
Tinned Fish	—	—	—	8
Tinned Fruit	—	2	—	26
Tinned Vegetables	—	—	3	10
Tinned Ham	—	1	2	9
Tinned Milk	—	—	1	15
Tinned Soup	—	2	—	—
Miscellaneous	—	—	1	3
Total	—	12	3	12

BAKEHOUSES.

There are 18 in the district at the present time. All were frequently inspected, and were found to be in a satisfactory condition.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT. 1938.

The Lancashire County Council is the Food and Drugs Authority, and the undernoted particulars of the sampling carried out under the provisions of the above Act in Failsworth during the year 1954, were supplied by the County Medical Officer of Health.

A total of 122 samples was obtained, of these 96 were of milk and the 26 others comprised:—

1 Lard.	1 Chicken Broth with rice, canned.
1 Dried Peas.	1 Meat Soup, canned.
1 Oatmeal.	1 Fish, canned.
1 Vegetables, dried.	2 Meat, canned.
1 Rice.	1 Tea.
1 Butter.	2 Vegetables, canned.
1 Margarine.	1 Castor Oil.
1 Coffee.	1 Epsom Salts.
3 Pickles.	2 Ice Lollies.
3 Sauce.	

In addition to the above, 4 "Appeal-to-Cow" samples were taken in the district during the year.

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine with the exception of the following:—

<i>Sample</i>	<i>Result of Analysis</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
1 Informal Milk ...	The freezing point indicated the presence of 3% of extraneous water.	Vendor cautioned.
1 Formal Milk	The freezing point indicated the presence of 0.6% of extraneous water.	Vendor cautioned and further samples obtained.
1 Formal Milk	Deficient 13.5% solids-not-fat whilst the freezing point indicated the presence of 8.9% extraneous water.	Prosecution. Vendor fined £14 and £5/5s. costs.
1 Formal Milk	Deficient 14.4% solids-not-fat whilst the freezing point indicated the presence of 9.9% of extraneous water.	

<i>Sample</i>	<i>Result of Analysis.</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
1 Informal Milk ...	The freezing point indicated the presence of 1.3% of extraneous water.	Vendor cautioned and further samples obtained.
1 Informal Milk ...	The freezing point indicated the presence of 9.7% of extraneous water.	Same Vendor. Formal samples obtained.
1 Informal Milk ...	The freezing point indicated the presence of 14.3% of extraneous water.	
1 Lard	Consisted of Cooking fat.	
1 Informal Milk ...	Deficient 5% fat.	Vendor notified.
1 Informal Milk ...	The freezing point indicated the presence of 4.3% of extraneous water.	Vendor cautioned and further samples obtained.
1 Informal Milk ...	The freezing point indicated the presence of 6.5% of extraneous water.	Same Vendor. Formal samples obtained.
1 Informal Milk ...	Deficient 13.3% fat whilst the freezing point indicated the presence of 1.3% of extraneous water.	
1 Informal Milk ...	Deficient 6.6% fat and slightly low in solids-not-fat.	Same Vendor. Vendor notified.
1 Informal Milk ...	Deficient 3.3% fat.	
1 Informal Milk ...	The freezing point indicated the presence of 10.8% of extraneous water.	Formal sample obtained.
1 Informal Milk ...	Deficient 25% fat whilst the freezing point indicated the presence of 27.1% of extraneous water.	Formal sample obtained.

<i>Sample</i>	<i>Result of Analysis</i>	<i>Action taken</i>
1 Informal Milk . .	The freezing point indicated the presence of 4.8% of extraneous water.	Same Vendor. Formal samples obtained.
1 Informal Milk ...	Deficient 18.3% of fat whilst the freezing point indicated the presence of 8.1% of extraneous water.	
1 Informal Milk . .	The freezing point indicated the presence of 2% of extraneous water.	
1 Formal Milk	Deficient 5.1% solids-not-fat whilst the freezing point indicated the presence of 3.5% extraneous water.	Prosecution. Vendor fined £15 and £8/8s. costs.
1 Formal Milk	Deficient 28.3% of fat and 25% solids-not-fat whilst the freezing point indicated the presence of 21.9% of extraneous water.	
1 Formal Milk	Deficient 6.6% fat, 10% solids-not-fat whilst the freezing point indicated the presence of 6.4% of extraneous water.	
1 Informal Milk ...	Deficient 1.6% fat.	Same Vendor. Vendor notified.
1 Informal Milk ...	Deficient 1.6% fat.	
1 Informal Milk ...	The freezing point indicated the presence of 1.6% of extraneous water.	Same Vendor. Vendor cautioned and further samples obtained.
1 Informal Milk ...	The freezing point indicated the presence of 1.5% of extraneous water.	
1 Informal Milk ...	The freezing point indicated the presence of 2.3% of extraneous water.	
1 Informal Milk ...	The freezing point indicated the presence of 2.6% of extraneous water.	

During the year 1954, 25 samples of heat-treated milk were obtained and these all satisfied the prescribed tests.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

The only offensive trade in the district is one tripe boiling premises which has been in existence for a considerable time.

RAG FLOCK ACTS, 1911 to 1951.

There are no premises in the District at which rag flock is manufactured, used, or sold.

SWIMMING BATHS.

There are no swimming baths in the District. Failsworth residents use the baths in the adjoining districts of Manchester, Oldham and Chadderton.

Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

1. **Inspections**, for the purposes of provisions as to health
(Including inspection made by Sanitary Inspectors)

PREMISES	Number of			
	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecution
Factories with Mechanical Power	97	105	—	—
Factories without Mechanical Power ...	13	24	—	—
Other Premises under the Act				
<i>(including works of building and engineering construction but not including outworker's premises)</i>	3	6	—	—
Total.....	113	135	—	—

2. **Defects found.**

PARTICULARS	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referr'd by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	4	4	—	—
Overcrowding (S.2)	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	—	—	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	—	—	—	—
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)—				
Insufficient	1	1	1	—
Unsuitable or defective	2	2	2	—
Not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act	—	—	—	—
<i>(Not including offences relating to Outwork)</i>				
Total.....	7	7	3	—

Number of Returns in Outworkers' Section—Nil.

BYE-LAWS AND ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE IN THE DISTRICT.

BYE-LAWS.	<i>Came into force.</i>
Prevention of Nuisances and Keeping of Animals.....	13th March, 1900
Slaughterhouses.....	13th March, 1900
Hackney Carriages.....	26th March, 1900
Cemetery Regulations and Charges (with amendments 1941 and 1949).....	March, 1928
Tents, Vans and Sheds and similar structures.....	12th October, 1928
Smoke Abatement—Emission of Black Smoke.....	14th March, 1929
Parks and Pleasure Grounds.....	4th February, 1948
Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air.....	17th July, 1950
Lancashire County Council—Good Rule and Government and Prevention of Nuisances.....	1st May, 1954
Building Bye-laws.....	29th June, 1954

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1890:—

Part III.....	1st June, 1896
Part IV.....	1st August, 1912
The Public Libraries Acts, 1892 and 1901.....	1st December, 1903
The Private Street Works Act, 1892.....	1st April, 1907

The Public Health Acts Amendment Act, 1907:—

Section 86.....	31st December, 1912
Section 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33 (Part II).....	21st March, 1913
* Section 30 is subject to certain conditions and adaptations.	
Section 95 (Part X).....	21st March, 1913
Section 76 and 77 comprised in Part VI.....	18th July, 1922
Section 19.....	1944

The Public Health Act, 1925:—

Part II except Sections 21 and 22.....	1st June, 1926
Small Dwellings Acquisition Acts, 1899-1923.....	2nd April, 1947

Sunday Entertainments Act, 1932

(Extension to Failsworth of Section 1). 1949

Lancashire County Council (General Powers)

Act, 1951.....	27th March, 1952
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